

Approved August 11, 2017

**Town Meeting Coordinating Committee
Minutes for March 22, 2017, 4:30 – 6:30 pm
Bangs Center, Garrabrants Room**

Present: Peggy Roberts, Mary Streeter, Alan Powell, Barbara Ford, Jacqueline Maidana, Chris Riddle, Patricia Holland

Peggy Roberts called the meeting to order at 4:36 PM.

1. **Public Input:** None.
2. **Meetings for Town Meeting Member Candidates:** We discussed the evaluations of the precinct meetings held at the Amherst Middle School on March 18th. Of the 90 evaluations, most were positive, with 14 saying “somewhat helpful”. The general message was have these meetings more often, that there were good conversations. Peggy suggested we could have precinct captains. We should have publicity about the success of these meeting. Expense receipts will be sent to the Town. We discussed having precinct members organize their own meetings.
3. **Preparing for April Annual Town Meeting:**
Packet Materials: We reviewed Peggy’s list of 2017 Annual Town Meeting dates and proofread the packet materials for the first mailing which Mary prepared.
Warrant Review: Peggy is organizing the April 4th warrant review with Jacquie and Barbara. They will meet tomorrow and Sunday, even though the warrant is still not approved by the Select Board.
Bus Tour: The bus tour will be Sunday, April 23rd, starting at 1:45 from the Middle School. Alan handed out a list of sites referred to in the warrant, and we discussed whether any required getting off the bus. Jacquie objected to having people meet the bus to explain the issue because that took too much time and some speakers were biased. We agreed to look at all the sites seeking funds from the Community Preservation Act fund, and one from the Historical Commission.
Precinct Meetings: All are arranged.
Orientation for New Town Meeting Members: The orientation will be the night TM begins, April 26th, from 6:00 to 6:45, in a room to the right of the auditorium.
4. **Website and Listserv:** Mary reported on a new method for people to contact their TM precinct members. Precinct members will use a special online form on the website amherstma.gov to contact their TM representatives. Jeff Lee has set up a new google group for TM members, which the public can view but not contact.
5. **Scheduling of Meetings:** The next meeting will be Friday, March 31st at 12 Noon.
6. **Topics Not Anticipated 48 Hours Before Meeting:** None.
7. **Minutes:** Not enough time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Holland, Clerk

Documents Distributed:

Agenda

Draft Minutes of March 8, 2017

2017 Annual Town Meeting Dates

Drafts, TMCC enclosures for TM packets

Possible Site Visits for Spring 17 Bus Tour

Email from Brianna Sunryd to Mary Streeter, et al., March 21, 2017, about form for precinct members to contact their TM representatives